

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 2012-1533

Date: February 10, 2017

Notice No. 17-06

Closing Date: February 27, 2017

- 1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- APPLICANT: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 12-0 825 North Gallatin Avenue Uniontown, PA 15401
- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: The project is located in Fallowfield Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. Decimal Degrees: 40.12118 N, -79.95324 W
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: This application was previously authorized by Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit-4 however the applicant is proposing an addendum of impacts for the State Route 0070, Section 10J reconstruction project. Under this action the applicant proposes to place fill material into waters of the United States for the purpose of constructing a toe bench and fill slope to support a section of I-70. The proposed project will result in approximately 413 linear feet (LF) of permanent impacts to two wetted channels and 0.09 acres of one wetland. Approximately 213 LF of the total impacts will be to an unnamed tributary to Pigeon Creek and 0.09 acres of an emergent wetland will occur as a result of the fill slope. This impacted tributary will be relocated within the rock toe bench area and would consist of a rock lined channel. The additional 200 LF of impact will occur as a result of stream mitigation being performed on an unnamed tributary to Maple Creek. Stream mitigation includes the installation of 155 feet of log cribbing (Mudsill), 45 feet of toe wood, and one log van and one cross vane. Wetland impacts will be mitigated by debiting 0.09 acres of emergent credit from the State Game Lands #297 Wetland Mitigation Bank. Drawings of the proposed project are attached. Additional details and/or drawings of the proposed project and mitigation areas are available upon request.
- 5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: On March 10, 2015 the applicant obtained a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Southwest Regional Office Waterways and Wetlands Section 400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745 Telephone: 412-442-4000

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, this Public Notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended
- 7. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in

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the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Allen R. Edris at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7158, or by e-mail at <u>allen.r.edris@usace.army.mil</u>. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2012-1533 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

~~SIGNED~~

Jon T. Coleman Chief, Southern Section Regulatory Branch









